

SENATE BILL 3527

By Herron

AN ACT to name a bridge spanning the Cedar Creek on State Route 128 in Perry County in honor of the late Fred Ashley Howell and Tilda Hildren Culp Howell.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary citizens who contributed significantly to the moral and social fabric of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennesseans are more deserving of this honor than the late Fred Ashley Howell and Tilda Hildren Culp Howell who demonstrated exceptional service to the Cedar Creek citizenry in particular and the Perry County community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Fred Howell was a devoted husband and father, an innovative farmer, mill proprietor, school board member, and businessman who, as owner of Howell Chevrolet, won the respect and admiration of his many satisfied customers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howell also served with distinction as a Perry County Magistrate from 1942 until his untimely passing in 1958; the good people of Perry County benefited greatly from his term of service, as he played a significant role in such worthy projects as rural electrification, enhancement of school building construction, and the establishment of manufacturing facilities; and

WHEREAS, Fred Howell was indeed fortunate to share the love and companionship of his beloved wife, Tilda; a loving mother and dedicated educator, Mrs. Howell's professional career spanned forty-four years, primarily at the Cedar Creek Schools of Perry County; and

WHEREAS, as a principal, teacher, and librarian, Tilda Howell was wholly committed to the highest principles of public service and quality education for all, and she truly epitomized the ideal of the dedicated teacher; and

WHEREAS, Fred and Tilda Howell demonstrated their love of Perry County's natural resources by employing innovative farming techniques as they tilled 590 acres and raised clover, corn, soybeans, milo, and cattle; their daughter, Elizabeth Howell Tiller, continues the Howell family's legacy of land management at the 127-year old Howell's Twin Oakes Farm; and

WHEREAS, the Howells left behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name a certain bridge spanning the Cedar Creek that lies in contiguous proximity to land that was once owned by Fred and Tilda Howell to honor their memories and to permanently commemorate the Howell's lives of purpose and commitment; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning the Cedar Creek on State Route 128 in Perry County is hereby designated the "Fred Ashley Howell and Tilda Hildren Culp Howell Memorial Bridge" as a lasting tribute to an accomplished couple who were much beloved by their family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Fred Ashley Howell and Tilda Hildren Culp Howell Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.